

w/ FBIS
Chant

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Meeting With USIA, 29 July 1985

FROM

Director, Foreign Broadcast
Information Service

EXTENSION

NO.

FBIS-0311/85

DATE

31 July 1985

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and
building)

DATE

RECEIVED

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OFFICER'S
INITIALSCOMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom
to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)1. Deputy Director for
Science and Technology
Room 6E45, Headquarters

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Evan:

This is in connection with
our meeting with you scheduled
for Friday, 2 August.

D/FBIS

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FBIS-0311/85

31 July 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

25X1
FROM:

[REDACTED]
Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

SUBJECT: Meeting With USIA, 29 July 1985

25X1
1. [REDACTED] and I met 29 July at USIA with the following: Marvin Stone, Deputy Director, USIA; Al Snyder, Director of USIA Television and Film Services; Gene Pell, Associate Director and Chief of VOA; Michael Schneider, Deputy Associate Director for Programs; and Henry Hockheimer, a technical consultant to USIA.

2. As one option with regard to FBIS planning to cover television from West Europe, we had suggested to USIA that we look at the question of whether FBIS and USIA could share INTELSAT and other communications facilities from the major capitals of Europe. USIA is broadcasting TV to 20 foreign capitals, including Western Europe. A cooperative effort might involve USIA use of FBIS INTERNET over the Atlantic and FBIS use of local TV connections at the U.S. embassies in various foreign capitals. The current USIA communications requirement is only 10 hours a week; FBIS INTERNET transponder capability would be able to easily handle the USIA requirement. On the other hand, USIA's access to U.S. embassies and equipment that has already been installed in many areas would give FBIS the ability to monitor TV broadcasts from most European countries.

3. Recognizing that this kind of cooperation was a long-shot, we nevertheless raised it with USIA several months ago, and they suddenly wanted to talk about it yesterday. The upshot of the discussion yesterday is that technically a cooperative venture could be devised, with a substantial savings in funds. But it was clear that the big hangup for USIA was "getting into bed with CIA." They saw many problems, ranging from the public image to people on the Hill who would object to USIA collaboration with an element of CIA. Stone nevertheless was very complimentary about the FBIS TV collection program, noting that European television is becoming the most important public medium in that part of the world. He said USIA will remain one of the most interested consumers of the FBIS product.

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4. I doubt that we will hear any more of this, but it was interesting that they could not simply drop the idea. Stone indicated he would discuss it with Charles Wick, USIA Director, who may discuss it with CIA management. But clearly they were afraid of the CIA connection.

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DDS&T/FBIS [redacted] 31 Jul 85)

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